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FACT SHEET

W W W . C M A . A R M Y . M I L

U.S. ARMY CHEMICAL MATERIALS AGENCY

Public Outreach and Participation

The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) is responsible for safely storing and eliminating chemical agent and munitions stockpiles while ensuring the safety of the public, the work force and the environment. The Army recognizes the

importance of an informed and participating public in disposing of chemical agent. CMA established the public outreach and participation program so that community members can learn about the program and provide input regarding CMA activities.



For more information, contact the CMA Public Affairs Office at (410) 436-3629 (800) 488-0648

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Public Outreach and Participation (continued)

Public Outreach Offices

CMA maintains outreach offices in five communities where chemical agent and munitions disposal facilities operate. These communities are Anniston, Ala.; Hermiston, Ore.; Newport, Ind.; Pine Bluff, Ark.; and Tooele, Utah. Local outreach offices provide the community a convenient, one-stop source of information about the program. The U.S. Army's Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives (ACWA) maintains outreach offices in two communities that plan on destroying chemical weapons stockpiles in Blue Grass, Ky., and Pueblo, Colo.

The outreach offices work closely with the disposal facilities, storage sites, state and local emergency preparedness agencies, elected officials, community groups, individual citizens and others to ensure a comprehensive public outreach and participation program.

Outreach Services

Each outreach office has a large repository of fact sheets, brochures, exhibits and technical studies available to the public. In addition, outreach staff coordinate presentations, hold public meetings, distribute information materials and attend community events. Other outreach activities include community roundtables, open houses and joint activities with local agencies, businesses and community groups. Important to the outreach and participation program is identifying as many ways as possible to get information to the public about emergency preparedness programs and the Army's plans for safe storage and disposal of chemical agent and munitions.



Public Laws About Citizens' Advisory Commissions

The Secretary of the Army directs the establishment of a citizens' commission for each state that stores 5 percent or less of the total U.S. stockpile of chemical weapons (Richmond, Ky.; Edgewood, Md.; and Newport, Ind.) and upon a request from the governor of a state where a chemical weapons storage site is located (Anniston, Ala.; Hermiston, Ore.; Tooele, Utah; Pueblo, Colo.; and Pine Bluff, Ark.). Citizens' advisory commissions have been established at each of the stockpile states. (Public Law 102-484, 1992.)

Each commission is composed of nine members. The governor of each state where a commission is established appoints seven citizens living in the affected areas of the state to serve as members of the commission. The other two members are representatives of state government, with direct responsibilities related to the chemical disposal program. (Public Law 102-484, 1992.)

Citizens' advisory commissions must meet at least twice a year. (Public Law 102-484, 1992.)

An Army representative must attend each commission meeting to receive citizen and state concerns regarding the chemical disposal program. (Public Law 102-484, 1992.)

Public Outreach and Participation (continued)

Community Feedback

As part of the program's commitment to public outreach and participation, CMA encourages feedback from the community regarding its outreach efforts. This feedback enables CMA to evaluate the effectiveness of its efforts and make improvements to increase community awareness and understanding of the program.

Citizens' Advisory Commission

A Citizens' Advisory Commission, or CAC, has been established in each community where CMA is currently storing or disposing of chemical munitions to represent the community's interests in the disposal program. The governor, at his or her discretion, appoints each CAC member to serve an unlimited term.

The CAC serves as the community's voice, ensuring that program decisions are in the community's best interest. Although the CAC does not make program decisions, it provides guidance and recommendations to the Army and seeks to answer questions and concerns from community members. CAC meetings are open to the public and announced in advance in local publications and on the CMA Web site. The public is encouraged to attend meetings to learn more about the program, including ways to participate in the decision-making process.

Outreach Office contact information

CMA Headquarters

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Arkansas

Outreach Office for Chemical Disposal
Woodlands East
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White Hall, Arkansas 71602
Phone: (870) 247-2025
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Colorado

Pueblo Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office
104 W. B St.
Pueblo, Colorado 81003
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Indiana

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306 S. Main St.
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Kentucky

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